

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Meeting
Wednesday, October 1, 2014
Gateway Building 3rd Floor Conference Room
6751 Gateway Drive
Columbia, MD 21046

Minutes of MLK Meeting—10/1/14

Present: Commissioners Jetheda Hernandez, Laura Bennett, Marla Stahl, Thelma Holiday, Skylar Stewart, Thelma Holiday, Elexis Lawson, Prateek Swamykumar, Namarta Nagarajan, Lynda Earle, Amanda Llorens, Alexis Roggeron, Barbara Chaney

Absent/Excused: Commissioners Thelma Holiday, Mayga Sapru, Dr. Paul Ball, Stephanie Wall, Norris West, Autumn Johnson, Caroline Harper, Administrator C. Vernon Gray; Outreach Coordinator Mary Toth

Welcome:

Commissioner Chair Jetheda Hernandez called a meeting of the MLK Commissioners to order at 7:06PM.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda for October 1, 2014 meeting was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of September 3, 2014 meeting were approved.

2014-2015 Committee Chairs and Membership

- Program Committee

Chair Barbara Chaney reported:

- Confirmed Rabbi will give invocation
- Getting confirmation for pianist
- Need about 3 people to put up and take down artwork. The art provided should already be matted.
- Rehearsal Dates need to be confirmed to inform the entertainment.

- Publicity Committee

Chair Norris West was able to report via email-

- Letters to elected officials (including Howard County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Renee Foose) should be mailed in early October
- Correspondence via email has been sent to the White House for President to be the keynote speaker.

- Norris' son will design the program book and Norris will cover the fees
- Program cover will be revised and a copy will be forwarded to Stephanie
- The Howard County public affairs office has drafted a press release for the essay contest, and announcements about the contest have begun appearing in village newsletters, thanks to the efforts of the Essay Committee
- Day of Service Committee
Chair Amanda Llorens reported-
- Meeting on October 23rd, at 3pm with partners to figure out things such as the location and donations. Need to contact Mickey Gomez.
- Logistics and Reception Committee
Chair Elexis Lawson and Chair Laura Be reported-
- Went to Wilde Lake High School and talked to the head of the culinary program that takes place there, to see if they were able to provide special meals for the program. The students are willing to possibly serve the food. They are able to do desert. Their specialty is cupcakes. At the end of the ceremony the program should be recognized for their services. The budget is preferably \$600. For each meal the cost will be around \$3. The commission will have to cover the expenses of transportation of food and dishes.
- Someone needs Howard Community College if they are going to provide tables and tablecloths.
- Food Bank is closed on MLK Day, so staff would have to be paid. Ask if they are able to do it for free, since they did last year.
- Check in with Jetheda to see if we want to have the can food drive and how we would advertise it.
- Need donations from partners
- Namrata will check with the National Honor Society to see if they are able to volunteer. They would be assigned to seat people, such as politicians to there section.

Essay Committee:

Co-Chair Nagarajan reported-

- Nagarajan was able to send the flyers to the super intendant and central office.
- Living the Dream Committee
Chair Thelma Holiday reported-
- Waiting on submission, deadline is in December.

- Will be using the same ranking style from last year to determine who receives the award.

Adjournment:

Laura Bennett took over the meeting after Commissioner Jetheda Hernandez had to leave the meeting early. Laura Bennett called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marla Stahl made the motion at 7:42 PM. Barbara Chaney second.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexis Roggerson
Secretary